



● **This Month's Question of the Month** – In straight pulls, the length of the box or conduit must not be less than _____ times the trade size of the largest raceway. A) 4, B) 6, C) 8, D) 10 – See the correct answer on page 2.

● **Note From The Chief**

Everyone in our industry knows that things change. As I have stated in previous *Electrical Currents*, the Electrical Program has been implementing LEAN principles that will enable us to identify and eliminate waste and deliver a distinctively better and more consistent quality product for our customers – search previous issues for LEAN at:

<http://www.lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/Electrical/WhatsNew/Currents/default.asp>

While we know we are going in the right direction, we still have significant challenges and very hard work ahead of us to prove that we can achieve and sustain greater results. We face these challenges with confidence and momentum that comes from impressive accomplishments. We are investing in a major effort to standardize our inspection and compliance procedures and processes. Our LEAN work will create a more consistent, efficient, and effective product for our customers.

The key to our success will be remaining clearly focused on achieving and sustaining our goals, better inspections, and improved compliance action with the underground economy.

● **Town of Eatonville**

Effective immediately, L&I's Electrical Program will be selling permits and doing inspections in the Town of Eatonville. The Town of Eatonville has elected to terminate their electrical inspection program.

● **Inspection Amnesty**

Use the amnesty opportunity, offered in the January *Electrical Currents*, to clean up your expired permits without inspections, avoid penalties, and ensure you have a safe installation. Amnesty from compliance action as described in the previous article ends February 15th. After that date, the Department will begin searching our records to find any remaining permits without inspection and will take compliance action on all identified permits with inspection request violations.

● **DEF Dispenser Equipment**

New federal laws are requiring the installation of Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) dispensers where commercial diesel dispensers are installed. DEF is corrosive, but is not a hazardous substance. Neither NEC 500 nor 514 are applicable to DEF dispensers. DEF dispensers may be a part of a diesel dispenser or be a separate dispenser.

A new electrical standard, UL 87C, has been developed for DEF dispensers. As with many new products and standards, the DEF manufacturing industry needs additional time to get their equipment listed. L&I inspectors will not require listing or field evaluation of DEF dispensers until August 1, 2012. Until August 1st, L&I inspectors will inspect the dispensers to WAC 296-46B and the NEC requirements as an electrical installation and will not issue a correction for the lack of a testing laboratory listing.

● **Electrical Board Vacancies – Applications Due Before March 1, 2012.**

Do not forget to make application for the currently and upcoming vacant Electrical Board positions. This is a great opportunity for you to be a voice for your industry. The Electrical Board has one current vacancy, a telecommunication utility representative, and three positions that expire July 7, 2012. The expiring positions are:

- Electrical utility representative
- Telecommunications contractor

Safety Tip of the Month!

Look inside your light fixture. Find the label that tells you which light bulb size (wattage) and type is right your fixture.

All electrical cords should be in good condition – no breaks, exposed conductors, or crush points.

- Building official from a city or town with an electrical inspection program

For more information, see the December 2011, *Electrical Currents* at <http://www.lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/Electrical/files/currents/elc1112.pdf>.

● Stakeholder Meetings

In February, stakeholder meetings will be held at four locations. We look forward to this opportunity to communicate with our customers. It is important for you to stay up to date with changes that might affect you. Attending stakeholder meetings gives you an opportunity to get your questions answered and give us your input. All meetings are from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The locations are:

February 7th – Vancouver Labor and Industries, 312 SE Stonemill Dr Suite 120	February 8th – Tumwater L&I Auditorium, 7273 Linderson Way SW
February 21st – Port Angeles – Elwha Klallam Tribe Heritage Center, 401 E First Street	February 22nd – Tacoma - L&I Building, 950 Broadway, Orcas Room, 5 th floor

● Temporary Plug and Cord Wiring – Carnivals, Fairs, Concerts, Trade Shows and Similar Events

Due to recent questions, we are revisiting and clarifying a newsletter article printed in September 2008. Wiring a temporary power distribution system, using plug and cord wiring methods, is not exempt work even if the power source is from a permanently installed electrical receptacle. A permit and inspection is required for any type of temporary power distribution system that uses generators, dimmers, transformers, feeders, branch circuits, or other means that distribute power to electrical equipment (e.g. amplifiers, lights, etc.). A distribution system means the interconnecting wiring, spider boxes, or other equipment that is installed to distribute power to the end user (e.g. booth operator, vender, etc.) for plugging in their equipment.

If the plug and cord system and all of the equipment it supplies are owned by the installer (e.g. show operator, road crew, etc.), the installer is considered to be an owner and is exempted from the requirements for electrical contractor licensing and certification by RCW 19.28.261(1) so long as: the installer has approval from the property owner to make the electrical installation and there is no hard wiring involved in the system. When these conditions are met, the plug and cord electrical distribution system is the “place of business” for the system/equipment owner or firm. Firms that install temporary power wiring including plug and cord systems to other end users are required to be properly licensed electrical contractors.

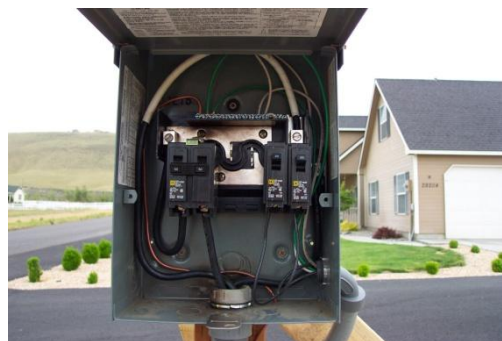
● Correction – WAC Rule Update

The January 2012 *Electrical Currents* newsletter incorrectly stated that the department has filed a CR101 pre-proposal statement of inquiry to begin rule making for WAC 296-46B. The CR101 statement will be filed in August or September of 2012. Look for more information on the WAC rule revision process in a special edition *Electrical Currents* newsletter in March.

● Ugly Installations

To enlarge the picture, Rclick on the picture, select Copy, and Paste into a MSWord document. Then, you can LClick on the picture, place your cursor over the picture's corner until a ↕ symbol appears and then hold the LClick button and drag your mouse to expand the picture.

Violations: NEC 230.74 – each service disconnect shall simultaneously disconnect all ungrounded service conductors, NEC 110.7 – wiring integrity, free from short circuits.



● Answer to This Month's Question of the Month: C)8 – 2008 NEC 314.28(A)(1)